

Eau Claire Area Master Gardener News



April 2019

Lyme Disease and Other Tick-Borne Illnesses Highlighted At ECAMGA Meeting

by Paula Bonnin

March's education meeting was given by Dr. Julia Kyle. Her presentation was entitled; "Lyme Disease and Other Tick-Borne Illnesses" in which she discussed prevention, symptoms and treatment for these tick-borne conditions. As an avid gardener and outdoor enthusiast, Dr. Kyle provided tips on how to avoid contact with disease carrying ticks such as wearing long pants, long socks, and long sleeve shirts when gardening or utilizing a spray protectant that has DEET in it.

Julia mentioned that DEET is one of the best ways to keep ticks from biting you. She also discussed how to avoid them such as having a mulch barrier with a quality wood or rubber mulch which will help keep the ticks from your garden.



Picture by Jo-Ann Clark



Photo by Steve Anderson

Should a tick bite, Dr. Kyle stated that the best way to remove it is by securing the head of the tick in a tweezers and pulling upwards or by utilizing a tick key which helps to remove the tick safely and securely. Once the tick is out, flushing it down the toilet is the best way to keep it from biting again. She recommends that if you are bitten and see the "ring" rash, (a sign of Lyme Disease) to get into the ER within 24 hours after you notice the rash in order to be put on antibiotics in order to fight the disease.

Dr. Kyle graduated from UW Medical School in Madison and is board certified in Pediatrics and Internal Medicine. She has practiced in the Chippewa Valley for over 20 years. She is an avid outdoor person, loves hiking, gardening, swimming, kayaking and has completed the "Birkie" in Hayward, Wisconsin 9 times!

Treats were available and door prizes were awarded. All in all it was an interesting and productive evening. If you missed it make sure you mark your calendar for the April 15th meeting when Jerry Clark will be presenting on "Preparing Your Garden Soil".



Photo by Sally Anderson



Local Master Gardener News

Changing e-mail? Moving?

If you do, please remember to notify the ECAMG and the newsletter editor of your new e-mail address and/or mailing address so you don't miss any Eau Claire Area Master Gardener happenings!

Email your new information to Carol Cox at c7w6c2200@charter.net or notify her by snail mail at 1908 Hogeboom Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54701 (or call her at 715-783-0016 - cell).



Bulletin Board Postings Stories and Opportunities!!!

MGV

Happy Spring Master Gardeners:

The plant sale committee had its first meeting and we are excited for the June 9th sale at Phoenix Park (10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.). Let's make this a successful sale.

First, we will sell donated perennial and annuals as usual and will have some native plants. If you are starting flowers, vegetables or herbs, plant a few extra for the sale! They should be planted/repotted in soil purchased at a store.

Second, if you have jumping worms in your yard or think you might have, please consider donating other things than plants from your yard.



Third, we will be accepting lightly used and in good condition garden related items to sell such as garden tools, flower pots and garden décor. NO BOOKS! Magazines will be free.

Fourth, we will take houseplants. Please make sure they are in good condition, pruned and potted in an appropriate pot. People ask for houseplants.

Make sure that you keep track of the time that you spend for your volunteer hours. The planting, digging, maintenance of the plants, and travel time to the sale can be counted toward your volunteer hours. We are also looking for volunteers to help at the plant sale. If you can help, please phone, text or email. We would like to see who can help and what they would like to do so we can be sure that we have enough volunteers. See below for the information.

The plant sale is Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Volunteers only fund raiser. Your donations are very important to the success of the sale. We need everyone to donate, if possible, at least 10 to 12 potted plants or bagged bulbs. Any donations are deeply appreciated! Thank you in advance for your help!

Mary Jane Griffin and Susan Merton
Plant Sale Co-Chairs
715-590-3742 cell/text
mgriffinhlaa@gmail.com

ECAMGA Board

ECAMGA BOARD MEMBER CONTACT INFO

Name	E-mail address	Phone number
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Nancy Spak	nancyspak@gmail.com	715-210-7005

Note:

The ECAMGAV Board minutes may be accessed at <https://eauclairemastergardeners.weebly.com/ecam-board.html>.



ECAMGVA

2019 Calendar

All meetings at Extension Office unless otherwise noted

April 15, 2019: Jerry Clark, "Preparing Your Garden Soil"

May 20, 2019: Container Gardening – Chippewa Valley Growers

June 9, 2019: Plant Sale at Phoenix Park

July (Date TBA), 2019: Tour of Square Roots CSA Farm/Mallard Rd, South of EC

August 19, 2019: Tour of Pollinator Gardens at the Chippewa Fairgrounds & Wissota State Park with MGV Sue Crisp

September 16, 2019: Annual Harvest Potluck

September 30, 2019: Hours due in

October 7, 2019: Deadline for MG Photo Contest entries

October 21, 2019: TBA

November 18, 2019: TBA

December 16: Annual Holiday Party



Events



For more information and to register go to: <http://barron.uwe.edu>. Cost is \$30 per person including continental breakfast and lunch. Tickets at the door \$35 with no lunch guarantee.

Barron County Master Gardener Volunteers

Spring Expo

Saturday, April 6, 2019
WITC Conference Center
Rice Lake, WI

Featured speakers:

Mark Dwyer, Rotary Botanical Gardens, "Basics of Landscape Design" (keynote address) and "Sensational Seasonals" (morning breakout session)

Mike Racette, "Vegetable Gardening"

Tim Fehr, "What's New In Daylilies"



Classes:

Saturday, April 6th at 10:00 a.m.: Fairy Garden Class

Thursday, April 25th at 6:00 p.m.: Spring Herb Class

Call to register or register online at Maysfloralgarden.com.

May's Floral Garden Inc.
3424 Jeffers Road
Eau Claire, WI 54701
715-836-8220
www.Maysfloralgarden.com

Change the way you look at things, and the things you look at change.

-anonymous

"The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. To nurture a garden is to feed not just the body, but the soul as well."

-Alfred Austin

Hi Master Gardeners,

Help is need with the teaching garden this year. The soil has to be prepared, the garden planted, weeded and watered.

It would be nice to have four volunteers to water so each one can water one day a week.

Carla and Mary Jane are unable to do all the work this year. Mary Jane has breast cancer and she will start chemo April 1 for three months but will do what she is able to do but more volunteers are needed.

Please call Mary Jane at 715-835-6979 or email her at mgriffinhlaa@gmail.com. Your help would be greatly appreciated and you can count the hours that you help for your volunteer hours.





S1 County Road K, Fall
Creek, WI 54742

beavercreekreserve.org

Phone: (715) 877-2212



Herbs and Herb Extracts: April 24, 2019 from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm: Price range: Learn about herbal extracts; how to use and make them at home! This class will feature some of the plants featured in the Beaver Creek Plant Sale! Join us as we learn how to concoct herbal remedies for springtime well-being with a focus on reducing pain. Herbal extracts are another must-have DIY remedy to add to your home apothecary

Cost: Member: \$25.00: Non-member \$30.00. Registration ends: APRIL 22ND Full payment required by April 22.



Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Training April 16, 2019 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Purple Loosestrife is a wetland invasive threatening river and lakeshores across the state. This session is dedicated to the statewide control program that uses beetles that feed on purple loosestrife to reduce the populations of the plant to manageable numbers. The training will outline the equipment needed, time commitment, and process to complete a purple loosestrife biocontrol program. Event is free to public.



Classes and Events:

Saturday, April 6, 2019 at 10:00 am: Veggie & Herb Gardening 101: New to growing your own food? This class is for you – everything from planning the layout of your garden or container to what to plant and when. We will also cover companion plants and harvesting. Growing your own food is a much healthier way to live. Find out how to get started at this class.

Saturday, April 13, 2019 at 10:00 am: Your Succulents and Air Plants: Come learn how to plant and care for these awesome plants and watch our experts demonstrate creative ways to display them. There are many different and unique ways these can be used for interior decorating. We encourage you to think outside the “container”.

Saturday, April 27, 2019 at 10:00 am: Straw Bale Gardening Class: Learn about the newest, interesting way of garden growing. Cost: \$15 (includes straw bale, book will be available for purchase as well.

NOTE: Pre-registration is preferred for all classes and workshops.

6025 Arndt Lane
Eau Claire, WI 54701
715-833-1234
www.dwntoearth.com



April ECAMGA Meeting to Focus on Dirt!!

On Monday, April 15th, Crops and Soils/ Agriculture Agent, Jerry Clark will be discussing "Preparing Your Soil for the Upcoming Garden Season."

Jerry is the UW Extension Educator facilitating the Master Gardener Program in Chippewa County. The presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the UW Extension Office in Altoona (124 First Street West, Altoona, WI). This program is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served and door prizes awarded. Bring a friend and let's get started on our garden adventures for 2019! Please call the UW-Extension office at 715-839-4712 with any questions.

Apple Grafting Workshop

April 4, 2019

Spooner Agricultural
Research Station

1035 E Maple Street (Highway 70)
Spooner, WI



Learn to graft apple stock, fee includes stock. Registration required. Kevin Schoessow, Area Ag Development Agent, will lead this workshop. Each participant will receive three hardy apple rootstocks. Apple bud (scion) wood from different varieties will be available for grafting or participants can bring their own scion wood. Space is very limited. Participants must pre-register and pre-pay.

Cost: \$20. For more information contact Lorraine Toman at 715-635-3506 (email: Lorraine.toman@wisc.edu).



Grape Pruning Workshop

April 13, 2019

Spooner Agricultural
Research Station

Teaching and Display Garden
780 Orchard Lane
Spooner, WI

Learn the techniques for grape pruning in the Research Station Teaching and Display Gardens.

Registration is requested. No cost for the event.
For more information contact Lorraine Toman at 715-635-3506 (email: Lorraine.toman@wisc.edu).



*Be sure to taste your words
before you spit them out.
-Anonymous*



Wood County Master Gardeners

Spring Garden Seminar

April 6th, 2019

Mid-State Technical College
Wisconsin Rapids Campus
Auditorium - 500 32nd St.
Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Featured speakers:

8:30 a.m. Laish Heersma- Landscape Architecture –of Arbor Vantage Nursery Arpin, WI and Mid-State Urban Forestry Technician Instructor: Her in-depth lecture will focus on design principles to create unity, rhythm, variety, balance, etc. in landscape design.

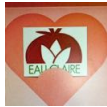
10:30 a.m. - Denise Larson, a Wood County Master Gardener Volunteer, will speak on “Garden Photography and Garden Journaling” – What do you do with info to be a better gardener?

Cost: \$18. For more information and to register go to www.mstc.edu/mastergardeners or phone 888-575-6782 (email woodcountymga@gmail.com).

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. with complimentary refreshments provided. The program begins at 8:30 a.m.



Photo from Pinterest



**Invitation from
The Eau Claire Garden Club
To ECAMGAV Members
To Attend A Tour of the
Klinger Farm Market
Greenhouses and Operations
Wednesday, April 10, 2019
At 6:30 p.m.**

Klinger Farm Market, located 6 ½ miles north of Chippewa Falls off of Highway 124, is a 5th Generation farm in business for over 100 years.

The business has 18 greenhouses where they grow a large selection of plants that they then offer for sale. Their hosta selection alone contains over 150 different varieties. Along with containers and garden art of various kinds Klingers also has a produce store that is open year around which carries a wide variety of home grown produce, home goods bulk seed and much more.



A blue-bell springs upon
the ledge,
A lark sits singing in the
hedge;
Sweet perfumes scent
the balmy air,
And life is brimming
everywhere.
What lark and breeze
and bluebird
sing,
Is Spring, Spring,
Spring!

-from "Spring Song"
by Paul Laurence Dunbar



**Invitation from
The Eau Claire Garden Club
To ECAMGAV Members
To Attend A Tour of the
Chippewa Valley Growers
Greenhouses and Operations
Wednesday, April 24, 2019
At 6:30 p.m.**

Chippewa Valley Growers, located at 7825 Prill Road (3.5 miles east of the Hwy 53 bypass on Hwy 12), grows and markets hundreds of different annuals, perennials, native grasses and pollinator-friendly plants. They sell trees, hardy shrubs and berry bushes as well as having stunning hanging baskets available for sale. They also do custom created containers.



An Interesting Plant...

When the snow melts it is delightful to spot the green of the hellebore which blooms in late winter to early spring, sometimes while the ground is still covered with snow. Hellebore

plants come in a range of colors, from white to black. They are often fragrant and are long-lasting. Aside from beautiful and unusual flowers, the hellebore plant has attractive green foliage.

Once established, hellebore care is minimal. Another plus for this plant is that it is disliked by deer and other animal that like to make salad of your garden. All parts of the hellebore plant are poisonous, so be aware of that and keep children and pets away.

Read more at Gardening Know How: Hellebore Care – How To Grow Hellebores:

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/flowers/hellebore/growing-hellebores.htm>

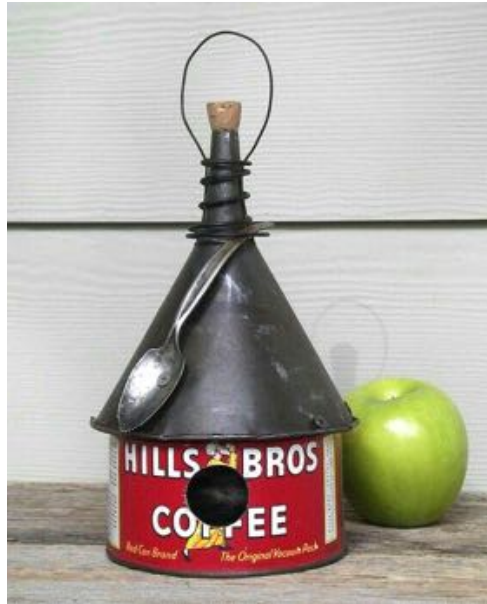
Bits & Pieces



Eye Candy

Birdhouse Extravaganza!

It is always interesting to see the shapes and forms that birdhouses can come in – and the materials used! It’s the season for the birds to come back so build them a house!



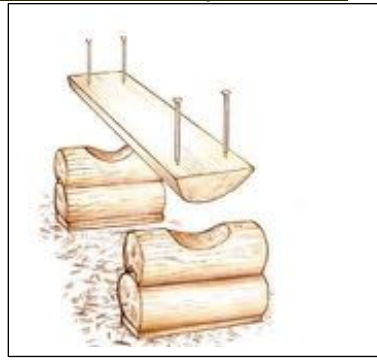
This one is not really a functional birdhouse but a carving of an old tree trunk. The birds might not be as appreciative of it but it certainly qualifies as eye candy for the gardener!





Pinterest.com is a site that can keep you enthralled with ideas for your garden all winter and then some. Spending a bit of time on that site recently garnered these finds: (on left) an interesting concept for planting. Check out the details at <https://www.lifeisjustducky.com/garden-towers/>.

And to the right, another idea off of Pinterest. Make a log bench for the garden and take a load off your feet and enjoy your garden domain.



EAU CLAIRE AREA MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER
 A newsletter for the Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Association members.

Unless otherwise noted, articles for this newsletter are submitted and/or written by ECAMGA members or the newsletter editor, Carol W. Cox. Unless otherwise noted, graphics are from clipart. Newsletter layout by Carol W. Cox



For more Eau Claire County UW Cooperative Extension information go to our website:
www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/EAUCLAIRE
 Phone: 715-839-4712
 Fax: 715-839-6277
 M-F 8AM-5PM



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**Eau Claire County
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 227 First Street West
 Altoona, WI 54720**